

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 29, 2018
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00pm in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center in Rome. Selectmen LaBelle, Stratton, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Abby DiPietro and Tammy Lyons.

Recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept minutes for May 14, 2018 Selectmen's meeting as amended.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/LaBelle Motion to accept Special Meeting Minutes from May 23, 2018.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement is not present; there is no report.

Road Commissioner is not present; there is no report.

Tax Collector Tammy Lyons received payment in full for all back taxes and fees from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moreau. The board will start the process of issuing a quitclaim deed for this property.

Stratton/Charles Motion to sign quitclaim deed. Map/Lot 31-020, 239 Grantwood Ridge to Robert and Janice Moreau. Pursuant to article 53 annual Rome Town Meeting.
Stratton, Charles in favor. (2-0) 1 abstained

Lyons has received a letter from the State of Maine. This letter addresses "Parks Fee Sharing", in the past our town had received a portion of this fee. According to the letter they have been "incorrectly interpreting" the Fee Sharing of Title 12, Maine Revised Statutes, Part 2, Chapter 20, subchapter 2, section 1820. Going forward this fee will only be shared among towns that have a park within their town.

The Board has received notice from TRIO that they are upgrading to a web based program, and would like to see the Town of Rome on board with this upgrade. TRIO is the budgetary system that the town uses for all receipting and tax record maintenance and collection.

Stratton/Charles Motion to sign an agreement with TRIO to upgrade data services to SQL.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Lois Stratton asks if there has been any communication from TRIO regarding the homestead exemption adjustment that is needed to finish the commitment and to get the tax bills printed and mailed. Selectman LaBelle states that our assessing agent Matt Caldwell received an email

from the company. The email states that they are aware of the changes needed and that they will make the changes but they couldn't offer a date that we could expect the updates to be made.

Stratton worries that our current flag pole isn't strong enough to withstand winds once it isn't buffered from the wind by the tree it is currently encroaching on. It was discussed to replace the pole with a taller stronger pole. Stratton is going to reach out to Gorham Flag Company and similar companies to see what they have to offer and what the cost would be. Mrs. Stratton is also talking with local businesses and interested residents to help with funding for the upgraded replacement pole.

Mrs. Stratton also wondered if there is a reception to be planned for 2017 Spirit of America award recipient, Carroll Bubar.

Waste Management sent a letter to the Board regarding increased recycling costs. Due to the increased cost recyclers have had increased operating expense as well as slowed down processing time. Effective June 1, 2018 Waste Management will be charging \$140.00 per ton for all recyclable material. \$140 per ton is a significant increase of our current cost of \$26.90 per ton for recyclable material.

On June 5, 2018 FEMA will be visiting our town to discuss reported damage and reimbursements from the October 2017 wind storm. Selectman LaBelle and Road Commissioner Bubar will be gathering GPS coordinates of all reported damage locations. The town could receive up to 90% reimbursement for damage cause by the wind storm. However, if the town isn't able to reach a minimum of \$3,000 worth of damage per category, then the town will not receive any of the reimbursement they are entitled to from said storm damage.

The Board is very pleased to have received 6 outdated iPad's from RSU #18.

Stratton/Charles

Motion to adjourn.

LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby DiPietro
Assistant to the Selectman